

ANIMAL ORDINANCE #431

Section 1 DELEGATION POWERS AND DUTIES

The City Council hereby designates the power to fine, enforce, administer, and issue citations consistent with this ordinance for offences under this ordinance all sections and subdivisions of this ordinance to the appointed Animal Control Officer, who will be appointed annually each, January by the City Council. Animal Control Officer is hereafter also referred to as poundmaster.

Section 2 LICENSING

Subdivision 1) All dogs & cats over the age of 6 months must be licensed at the City Clerk's office, and a certificate of rabies must be obtained before the license can be issued.

Subdivision 2) The licensing period shall be from December 1, through December 31; all dogs & cats shall be licensed within this period or subject to a fine so forth in Section 6, Subdivision of this Ordinance.

Subdivision 3) A record of all dogs & cats licensed shall be kept in the City Clerk's Office. The record shall include the description or breed, color, age, owner's address and phone.

Subdivision 4) All new dogs & cats coming into the City must be licensed within 30 days. The only license acceptable is the license issued by the Clerk's Office of Lanesboro and no license from any other municipality or area will be accepted. Licenses are not transferrable to another animal. No person shall place any license tag upon any other animal than the one which it was issued, nor shall any person other than the owner take from any dog or cat a license tag legally placed upon it.

Subdivision 5) Poundmaster is authorized and may issue a written notice of violation of the provisions of this chapter containing a warning that a criminal complaint may be issued.

Subdivision 6) Every owner of an animal subject to this ordinance shall place and keep around the neck of such animals a device on which the license tag issued by the Clerk's office shall be securely fastened.

Section 3 DOGS & CATS AT LARGE

Subdivision 1) All dogs and cats shall be restrained within the property limits of the owner by means of a leash, fence, pen, enclosure, house or other effective means of restraint. Dogs or cats not on the owners premises must be securely fastened to a leash in the control of a competent person.

Subdivision 2) The animal control officer shall apprehend and take possession of any dog or cat running at large in violation of the provisions of this ordinance and shall place any such dog or cat in the designated City Animal Pound to be confined there until released or disposed of in the proper humane manner.

Subdivision 3) Periodic offenders who allow their animals to run at large shall be subject to a fine as per Section 6, Subdivision 4. A written complaint may be filed at the Clerk's office by two or more adults specifying the owner of the dog or cat and the offense committed. The Clerk shall then administer the issuance & collection of a fine consistent with Section 6, Subdivision 4 of that Ordinance, and shall present to the offender a written receipt of the fine, and a copy of this shall also be kept on

file in the Clerk's office.

Section 4

NOTIFICATION

Subdivision 1) When any unlicensed animal is apprehended by the Animal Control Officer, the Animal Control Officer shall post notice of this at the Community Hall and notify the City Clerk. The notice shall include where the animal was apprehended, date, description of the animal and such other information as may be pertinent, and will remain posted for 3 days thereafter; at which time if the animal has not been claimed it will be disposed of by the Animal Control Officer in a humane manner.

Subdivision 2) When any licensed animal is apprehended by the Animal Control Officer the Animal Control Officer shall, within 48 hours after apprehension, mail a written notice to the owner or keeper of such an animal at the address given to the Clerk at the time of licensing, notifying, when, where, and other information relating to the apprehension of the animal. The owner then has 3 days in which to claim the animal, or it shall be disposed of in a humane manner

Subdivision 3) Any owner of such apprehended animal may claim his dog or cat by notifying by Animal Control Officer and by paying a pound fee of \$3.00 per day at the Clerk's Office. The Clerk shall provide to the owner a receipt. If the dog or cat has not previously been licensed, the owner will license the dog or cat before it is released and if the Clerk deems necessary he may impose a fine for not licensing the dog or cat per Section 6, Subdivision 2 of this Ordinance

Section 5

VICIOUS DOGS

Subdivision 1) It shall be unlawful for the owner of a dog to allow the dog to chase or molest persons. If a dog bites or inflicts injury upon a person or persons, this shall constitute prime facie evidence only that such animal is a vicious dog. Upon notice that a dog has bitten a person or persons, the animal shall be kept at the designated City Pound for a period of ten (10) days to determine if there is any danger of health complications.

Subdivision 2) After apprehension of a vicious dog, the owner will be notified immediately and given 24 hours in which to claim the animal. If not claimed and the appropriate fines paid, the animal will be destroyed in a humane manner.

Section 6

FINES AND FEES

Subdivision 1) Licenses shall be issued at a cost of \$2.00 for male and spayed female, \$4.00 for unspayed female per annum, and no license shall be pro-rated or refunded for any reason. Late fees shall be procured \$1.00 additional for licenses between January 1st through January 31st and 50¢ for each additional month, thereafter.

Subdivision 2) Any person who fails to license his dog in the proper manner shall be issued a citation by the Animal Control Officer through the Clerk's Office.

Subdivision 3) Any dogs or cats which are claimed by the owner shall be fined by the Animal Control Officer in the appropriate manner:

First Offense:	\$10.00
Second Offense:	\$15.00
Third Offense and thereafter:	\$100.00
Boarding, fee	\$4.50 per day

The offenses apply to a period of 12 months. Offenses will not be carried over

after the 12 month period and the dog or cat owners will begin at the rate of the first offense.

Subdivision 4) Any owner of a vicious dog which allows the dog to run loose s be subject to a fine of no less than \$50.00. A second offense constitutes immediate disposal of the dog.

Subdivision 5) Any person interfering with the apprehension of any animal or enforcement of any provision of this Ordinance by the Animal Control Officer is subject to a fine of \$100.00.

Subdivision 6) No person shall enter or break into the designated dog pound nor attempt to take any such animal from the premises without an authorized representative from the City accompanying that person. Violator of this section shall be subject to a fine of \$100.00

Section 7

PUBLIC NUISANCES NOT ALLOWED BY PERSONS OWNING DOGS

Subdivision 1) No owner shall allow a dog to persist in continual barking or in such spans of time as to disturb the comfort of people surrounding the immediate area.

Subdivision 2) Any owner of a dog or cat shall not allow such animal to cause unnecessary foul odor by not keeping clean the area in which the animals are kept.

Subdivision 3) The fines for the offenses in Section 7, Subdivision 1 and are the same as those in Section 6, Subdivision 3 and all terms consistent with this portion of the Ordinance.

Subdivision 4) No household shall be allowed more than 4 dogs, cats, or any combination, thereof.

Ordinance #430 is hereby repealed.

Adopted and passed by the Common Council of the City of Lanesboro.

Attest:

William T. Grunkemeyer
Administrator

David Drake
Mayor